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Pharmacokinetic Considerations in Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass Patients

The path of oral drugs through the digestive tract changes after Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. Although roughly 4–5 m of functional small intestine remains after the surgery, oral drugs no longer pass through the duodenum and proximal jejunum and thus pharmacokinetic parameters may change.

| Selected Potential Implications of Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass on Drug Absorption |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Factor                          | Implication                     |
| Surface area for drug absorption| Decrease in effective surface area for drug absorption |
| Length of intestine and drug transit time | May be inadequate transit time for full dissolution and absorption of extended-release drug formulations |
| Drug dissolution in acidic vs. alkaline environment | Bioavailability of acid-sensitive drugs is affected by new stomach pH of >4 |
| Rate of gastric emptying  | May decrease rate of drug absorption |

Professional Policy as a Catalyst to Pharmacy's Transformation

The first William A. Zellmer Lecture explains the process of policy development at ASHP and the need for participants to think beyond the status quo.

ASHP Statement on Leadership as a Professional Obligation

All pharmacists—not just those whose role or title denotes leader—should develop and exert the leadership skills for ensuring safe, effective medication use, according to a new statement expressing ASHP's basic philosophy.

Overview of ASHP Guidelines on Emergency Medicine Pharmacist Services

This new set of guidelines from ASHP offers programmatic advice on the essential and desirable services that emergency medicine pharmacists may provide to emergency departments. The Web-extended version of the guidelines describes the essential and desirable direct patient care and administrative roles of emergency medicine pharmacists.